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RULES, &c.

THAT, the Names of all the Proprietors of the ſaid Library be fairly written in the Library Regiſter, in an alphabetical Order, to prevent any Uneaſineſs about Precedency.

THAT, the Titles of all the Books that have, or ſhall be given to the Library by any Gentleman, charitably diſpoſed to contribute to the better furniſhing thereof, be at large, and fairly written in the Regiſter, with the Name and proper Addition of the giver, as a Mark of the Proprietors Gratitude.

THAT, a Catalogue of all the Books belonging to the Library be fairly written in the Regiſter, in alphabetical Order, and the Prices thereof in Sterling Money carried out, care being taken to leave Room under each Letter for inſerting ſuch Books, as may be hereafter purchaſed.

THAT, from Time to Time ſome proper Perſon ſhall be appointed Librarian, whoſe Buſineſs and Duty ſhall be, to ſee that all Things be written in the Regiſter according to theſe Rules; to take Care that the Books be kept clean, in good Order, and in their proper Places; to deliver out Books to the Proprietors, and take Receipts for them; to receive them back, replace them, and diſcharge the Receipts; to take Care that the Room, where the Books are, be kept clean and neat; to attend from two to five of the Clock every Saturday Afternoon upon the opening the Library, delivering out, and receiving in Books, and to attend to ſhew the Library to all Strangers, who are Gentlemen, and deſire to ſee it.

THAT, no Proprietor ſhall receive, or have at one Time, more than one Folio, or one Quarto, or one large Octavo Volume, or Two

two ſmall Octavo, or Duodecimo Volumes. The Folios to be returned in ſeventeen Weeks, Quartos in twelve Weeks, and Octavos and Duodecimos in eight Weeks.

THAT, none of the Proprietors lend any Book to any Perſon, or ſuffer any Book in their Hands to be torn, defaced, or any way miſuſed or injured.

THAT, if any Proprietor lend, loſe, or unfairly injure any ſingle Book he may have taken out of the Library, every ſuch Perſon ſhall be obliged to pay to the Librarian, double the Price ſuch Book is marked at in the Catalogue; and if ſuch Book be one of a Lot of Books, commonly kept, and properly belonging together, then he who loſes, detains, or unfairly injures ſuch a Book ſhall be obliged to pay the double Price of the whole Sett, and may, if he pleaſes, receive the Remainder of ſuch Sett to his own Uſe.

THAT, every Proprietor, when he receives any Book out of the Library, ſhall, in the Preſence of the Librarian, ſign a Receipt, in the Receipt-Book for that Purpoſe to be kept, ſetting forth the Title of the Book, of what Fold it is, and the Time when received; and when ſuch Book is returned, the Librarian ſhall, with his own Hand, write the Word (Returned) on the Bottom or Margin of the Receipt; alſo putting down the Date.

THAT, the Right of any of the Proprietors in the ſaid Library ſhall not be divided, but ſhall always remain in ſingle Perſon, and may be Sold or Transferred from one Perſon to another, at Pleaſure.

THAT, from this Date any Perſon of a good Character may be admitted and made a Proprietor in ſaid Library, he firſt paying to the Treaſurer eight Pounds, Sterling: And the Money ariſing by ſuch Admiſſion, ſhall be immediately laid out in purchaſing ſuch Books as ſhall be moſt wanted.

THAT, for the future, there ſhall be a General Meeting of the Proprietors

prietors, on the firſt Monday of *September* annually, and oftner if need be, the Time to be appointed by the Librarian and any ſeven of the Proprietors, and proper Notice given by the Librarian to the Members: And when they are duly met, the Librarian ſhall lay before them the State of the Library, giving an Account of all that hath been done ſince their laſt Meeting; and the ſaid Proprietors ſhall regulate and amend any Thing that ſhall be found amiſs, and from Time to Time provide and make ſuch further Rules and Orders, as ſhall be found neceſſary for the better governing the Library: And at every ſuch annual Meeting they may remove the Librarian, and appoint another in his Stead, if they think fit.

THAT, previous to every ſuch annual Meeting, the Treaſurer and Librarian ſhall lay their Accounts before the ſtanding Committee, who ſhall examine them, and lay the State thereof before the ſaid annual Meeting for their Approbation, and whatever they ſhall find due on the ſaid Accounts they ſhall immediately order to be paid: and for that End ſhall have Power to aſſeſs and levy an equal Tax on all the Proprietors, and order by whom, in what Manner, and within what Time, the ſame ſhall be collected.

THAT, all Miniſters and Preachers, for the Time being, among the different Denominations of Chriſtians within the Town of *Providence*, ſhall be allowed the ſame Liberty with the Books belonging the Library, as though they were Proprietors therein, they obſerving the ſame Rules as others are hereby directed to follow.

THAT, if any Proprietor do keep any Book longer than the Time limited in the foregoing Rules, he ſhall pay to the Librarian a Fine of two Pence, three Farthings, Lawful Money a Week, for any Book ſo detained, which ſhall be the Librarian's Perquiſite for his Attendance. And that no Proprietor ſhall take any other Book out of the Library until ſuch Fine be paid.

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THAT, no Proprietor ſhall take out the ſame Book again which he returns, if any other Member appears to take out the ſame.

THAT, whenever the General Aſſembly ſhall ſit in the Town of *Providence*, the Librarian ſhall, on the firſt Day of their ſitting, deliver the Keys of the Library to whomſoever they ſhall appoint, to be returned to him again when they ſhall riſe; ſo that the Members may have Opportunity to read any of the Books, if they ſee Cauſe, truſting to their Honour to leave them in their Places.

THAT, if any of the Proprietors of the Library ſhall neglect or refuſe to obſerve and govern themſelves, in affairs relating to the Library, according to the foregoing Rules, or ſuch others as may be hereafter eſtabliſhed for the future good Order thereof, it ſhall be in the Power of the Proprietors, at any General Meeting, to remove ſuch refractory Member from being one of their Number, and to deny and refuſe him any Benefit of the Books belonging to the Library. And if any Member ſhall neglect or refuſe to pay any Tax or Aſſeſſment impoſed by the Proprietors at any of their Meeting, for the Space of one Year after ſuch Meeting, that then the Treaſurer of the Proprietors ſhall cauſe the Right or Share of ſuch delinquent Member to be ſold at public Vendue, for the payment of the Tax or Aſſeſſment, and the Reſidue of the Money ariſing from the Sale, after payment of Vendue Fees and the other lawful Expences, ſhall be delivered unto ſuch Member. Provided, That nothing herein ſhall be in Force againſt any Member who ſhall be over Sea during the whole Twelvemonth.

AGREED and RESOLVED, That Cæſar's Commentaries, by Duncan, with Clarke's fine Cuts; a large and beautiful Folio Edition of Guillim's Hera'dry; Bickham's Univerſal Penman; and Bowen's Syſtem of Geography, in two large Folio Volumes, with curious Maps; ſhould not be taken out of the Library, but remain there for the general Inſpection of the Members, when the Library ſhall be opened.

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